Do Dogs Understand Death? The Soldier's Dog Sadly Waiting by His Grave Raises the Interesting Question Whether the Animal is Really Mourning or Ex-

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ANY interesting questions concerning the intelligence of the dog have been raised by episodes of the present war in which this animal has

The extensive use of dogs to draw light guns and other military vehicles their services in rescuing the wounded and their remarkable devotion to the soldiers have given unusual opportunities for observing the behavior of this friend Does a dog know when his master is

Does a dog really feel grief?

Does a dog rescue the wounded from love of mankind? Does a dog employed for fighting pur-

poses feel a hatred of the enemy?
These are a few of the interesting questions that have been raised by the war and are being debated. At a time when the actions of animals have been made the subject of closer study than of scientists known as the American Animal Behavior Society is constantly gathering material, these war dog stories will be of special value and interest,

One incident has been made the sub-ject of a poem by Miguel Zamacois, who is one of the most popular poets of the day in France. He refers to the un-doubled fact that a dog was found watching day after day over the grave, near Esternay, of ten French soldiers, one of whom had picked him up when homeless and taken care of him. M. Zamacois only dwells on the pathetic aspect of the incident and leaves the analysis of the

dog's feelings to scientists.

That dogs frequently linger near the bodies of their dead owners is a fact that cannot be doubted, for it has been reported numberless times by reliable witnesses. For instance, it happened in connection with the tragic death of C. R. Watson, the leader of the seventeen Americans who were recently slaughtered in Mexico, After Mr. Watson's body was buried at El Paso, his faithful dog watched all day by the grave. But was the dog really mourning?

connection with the incident at Esternay one observer has asserted that this dog showed genuine grief, emotion of a high order, in waiting over the grave of its dead friend. Another student of dog behavior, argued that perhaps the animal did not know that his master was dead, and was simply waiting for the man who had fed him to return.

"What reason is there to say that this dog did not show real grief of the deepest. kind?" asks the first observer.

There is no doubt, according to this friend of the dog, that the animal knew that his master was dead. The dog, with the beenness of its senses, is able to tell much more quickly than a man that another creature is dead. It could probably perceive the fact even though the dead person or animal were buried many feet below the ground. It is well known that the dog often detects the presence of an animal it is hunting beneath the

The dog, it is argued, must be familiar with the nature of death, because this is as common among those of its own race as among men. There is no need to argue that the dor has as complete an idea of all that death implies as a man, but there is reason to believe that he knows that it means the end of a man's or an animal's earthly activities. It is therefore unreasonable to say that a dog watching over his master's grave does not know that he is dead and is expect-Ing him to come up and feed him

But if the dog knows that his master is dead, some one may ask why he should linger over his grave. That is simply an

The Dog

By Miguel Zamacois, the Distinguished French Poet. English Verse by Curtis Dunham.

"After the battle of Esternay a dog refused to leave the grave of the soldier who had rescued him."—Paris

NE lonesome tomb the open field reveals: No graven stone to passerby appeals, No hero's name, no gallant deed enrolled. No epitaph—a grave, all silent, cold; And yet how eloquent the wordless signs Upon that shelt'ring turf! A dog reclines Beneath a rustic cross, one mourning friend, Devotion-stricken, faithful to the end. A modest flag, tri-colored, flutters there, And on the grassy mound with tender care Are placed the caps of ten who sleep below. What monument with phrases trite could show More clearly what this precious grave contains, Mute witness of a country's travail pains?—
"Ten soldiers lie within one nameless grave Who fought and died as one, one cause to save!"

Those soldiers' caps, the brave tricolor there!
One pauses, thrilled, abashed, his bowed head bare;
He grieves, yet glows with racial pride— His race, his land, for which these ten have died! One moment thus, and then the human note. True sentiment is there; who now would quote, "Dumb brute?" Who know what loving, poor dogs think? Why waits this dog, refusing food and drink? grave have dug and gone And comrades of these dead are fighting on; The battle's roar o'erwhelms all sentiment— Save to a dog who loves, and is content To starve beside one buried soldier's cap The other nine are nought to him; mayhap He sniffs at all, but only to be sure Which is his Master's. Satisfied, secure And constant to his trust, he starves and waits.

What does this poor dog think, who cannot tell The longings of his grateful heart? "'Tis well His cap is here, or I'd be doing wrong To think this sod could hold him down so long." Those patient canine eyes expectant grow:
"A little longer yet—then to rejoice;
To feel his kindly hand, to hear his voice,
To eat from his hand only, leap upon His sturdy chest, this bitter waiting done; Reward him with a poor dog's very life. Since life he saved for me amid the strife man with man; to wait, to starve, to thirst, Is little enough from me to him.'

In love of dogs for those they choose to own As masters, feels their need of speech? A whine, a gladsome bark, a whimper here, A caper there, devotion without fear; Courage, patience-are not these enough?

The day is done, and in the twilight chill The dog beside the cap is waiting still. He shivers; ere the dawn his eyes will glaze. And when the sun dispels the chilling haze Its rays no more will warm this faithful Friend Of him whose cap he guarded to the end.

effect of blind, unreasoning love and grief, How long will the dog stay over his master's grave? That depends on the dog. In some cases the animal is said to have stayed there until he died, while in others hunger or some other cause

drives him away after a time.

Why should we suppose that the dog does not experience real grief and that he is merely waiting for his food? It can be proved that the dog has the most boundless and unselfish affection for a man. Therefore it follows that he must be capable of feeling grief. It is not reasonable to believe that an animal can feel strong affection and not feel the commentary emotion that the loss of the object of his affection must cause,

Many of the animal observers argue that the dog has stronger feelings of affection and grief than the average human being, although it is generally admitted to the most sensitive human beings, owing to their higher mental powers, are capable of greater depths of feeling. The dog, however, is almost invariably a very emotional creature, while

great numbers of human beings are very slightly emotional. Records show that the dog is capable

a common experience to find a dog strongly attached to a horse and etimes even to a cat. When a dog's devotion is concentrated on one of his own species it is not usually directed to one of the opposite sex. A superficial observer who imagines that human sentimentality is the noblest of qualities may think that this is an evidence of the dog's great inferiority to man, but more thoughtful observers argue that it is a mark of the dog's moral su-

and lasting affect

tion, not only for

but for other dogs

and animals. It is

The friends of the dog argue that in all the purely moral qualities, as theologians and philosopher have classed them, the dog proves himself fully equal to man, if not superior. Thus we find the dog exhibiting affection, devotion, unselfishness, courage and generosity in a great degree. If the dog's organism is so filled with these qualities it may be that there is not room for the cold reason-

Dogs have been used very largely by the French and Germans and other com-batants for finding and helping the The services they have rendered in this way have been of great value. For instance, in going over a large battlefield the medical officers have often been unable to distinguish quickly

between the unconscious wounded and the dead. A trained dog will at once pick out the man who has the least trace of life teft in hlm. This fact in itself is sufficient proof that the dog

knows whether his master is dead or not. The dogs have also been very useful in relieving the wounded who have been left lying in places where they could not be rescued on account of the terrific fire to which the rescuers would be exposed. Poor fellows disabled in this way have been left in the open for days until they died from hanger and neglect. Dogs have been trained to carry food and drink to such cases.

Stories of the dog's devotion to man are nearly as old as the human race. As early as we find any traces of man we find traces of the dog sharing his dwelling and his occupations. In some mys-terious way the dog was created with an overwhelming attachment to a different animal, man.

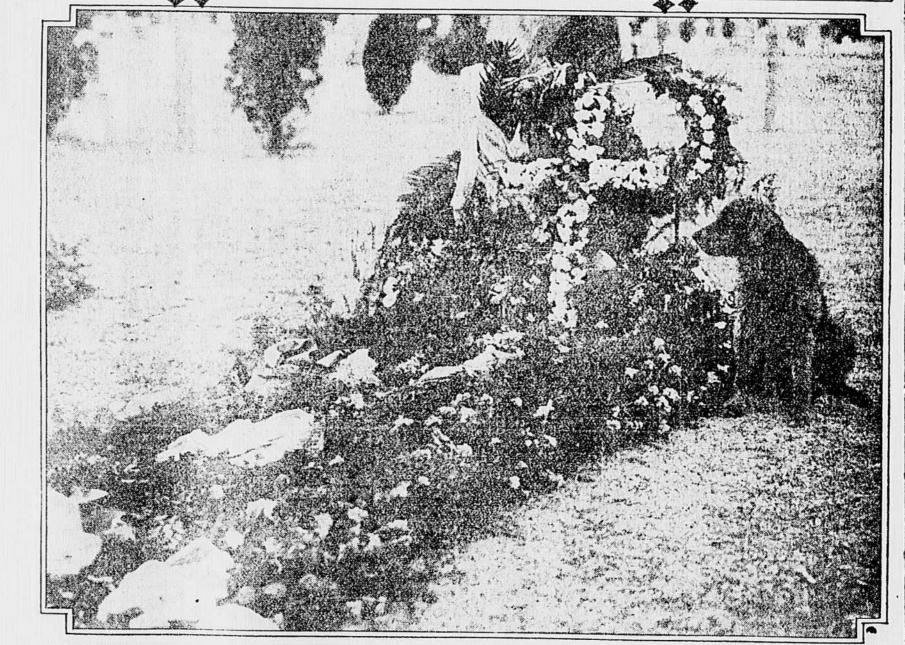
In Homer's "Odyssey" we are told that the old dog was the only creature that recognized Odyssens when he returned home ragged and disguised after his long wanderings. Here we have an early record of a well established fact, the dog's ability to recognize a person more quickly than a man can do. One man bases his impressions of another on his ciothes, his way of triuming his hair, his eyeglasses and other superficial things. The dog is able to recognize the true personality behind these superficial things,

One favorite ancient dog story is that of Bethgellert. According to Welsh leg-Copyright, 1916, by the Star Company. Great Britain Rights Reserved.

end, Bethgellert belonged to Llewellyn, the heroic Welsh prince, who left the hound to care for his baby while he was out hunting. When Llewellyn came back late at night he found the dog with bloodstains about his mouth lying by an empty cradle. Rashly imagining that the dog had killed his child, Elewellyn slew the faithful animal with his sword. As the dying dog looked at him with reproachful eyes he found the baby lying unharmed among the curtains. The dog had acquired the bloodstains in fighting robbers who had tried to steal the child.

most the same story is found in Persain,

Hindu and other ancient literature. The defect of most of the ancient stories of dogs is that they interpret the dog's actions from the point of view of human motives and feelings. The new school of animal behaviorists endeavors to eliminate this human factor as far as possible, and keep an impartial record of the intelligence, habits, capacities and actions of the animals. To this collection of facts the observations of the conduct of dogs during the present war will yield an extraordinary quantity of new



Dog Watching Over the Grave at El Paso of C. R. Watson, One of the Seventeen Americans Recently Butchered in Mexico. (And Above) The Dog That Stayed by the Grave of Ten French Soldiers of the 5th Regiment, Near Esternay, One of Whom Had Picked Him Up When Homeless and Cared for Him. of the most deep

It is a curious circumstance that aland interesting material. Wanted-More Half Portions

THE serving to individuals in restaurants, hotels and dining cars of larger portions than can be eaten is often deplored by those who believe in the conservation of our food resources and the wickedness of waste.

Where two may share an order the large portion is desirable, but at many cating places the serving of a single portion to two guests is strictly forbidden. And in the many cases where one is eating alone, to be forced to purchase more than one desires is a source of annoyance rather than of satisfaction.

A move in the right direction has been made by a western railway system in the introduction of half portions in

their dining cars. This so-called "Plate Service" has been well patronized since its inauguration, and bids fair to become extremely popular.

Waste could further be avoided in commercial food, served in dining cars and cafes, by having more simple and better selected menus and better cooking. A "soggy" boiled potato, and pale, watery, tasteless roast beef should be an impossibility instead of all too common. Persons of discrimination and with culfivated food habits want most of all, good, staple foods in reasonable variety, clean, well-cooked and decently served. And these, as any one who has travelled much knows to his serrow, are often exceedingly hard to obtain at any price.